

Message Text

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43

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CPR-01 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

/064 W

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R 171007Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6975

USLO PEKING

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUDAPEST 3238

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CH, SU, HU

SUBJ: SOVIET BLOC CONDOLENCES MESSAGES

REF: (A) PEKING 1829, (B) BUDAPEST 3127, (C) BUDAPEST 3153

1. WE NOTE WITH INTEREST THAT HSWP PARTY ORGAN NEPSZABADSAG SEPT 14 REPORTS THAT GYULA ORTUTAY, MEMBER OF PRESIDENTIAL COUNCIL, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SZEKER, AND DEPUTY FONMIN KAROLY SZARKA VISITED CHINESE EMBASSY DAY BEFORE TO EXPRESS CONDOLENCES TO AMBASSADOR LI CE-VANG ON BEHALF OF PRESIDENTIAL COUNCIL AND COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ON OCCASION OF DEATH OF MAO TSE-TUNG. SIGNIFICANTLY ABSENT IS REPRESENTATIVE OF HUNGARIAN SOCIALIST WORKERS' PARTY.

2. PARA 3 REFTEL A REPORTS THAT ONLY MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCES FROM SOVIET UNION OR EASTERN EUROPEAN
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COUNTRIES (EXCEPT ROMANIA AND ALBANIA) PUBLISHED IN

PRC WAS SIGNED BY HUNGARIAN PRESIDENTIAL COUNCIL AND COUNCIL OF MINISTERS. YET, AS REPORTED IN REFTEL B, OFFICIAL HUNGARIAN PRESS ANNOUNCED SEPT 10 THAT PRESIDENTIAL COUNCIL, COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, AND HSWP CENTRAL COMMITTEE HAD SENT A TELEGRAM EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON DEATH OF CHAIRMAN MAO TSE-TUNG.

3. TWO POSSIBILITIES OCCUR TO US. FIRST IS THAT THE CHINESE DELETED SIGNATURE OF HSWP FROM TELEGRAM FROM BUDAPEST OR, AS SEEMS MORE LIKELY, SOMEBODY IN HIGH HSWP CIRCLES HAD SECOND THOUGHTS ABOUT PARTY MESSAGE AND DELETED REFERENCE TO HSWP IN ACTUAL MESSAGE TELEGRAPHED. AFTER GUIDELINES HAD BEEN GIVEN TO PRESS. THERE SEEMS TO BE EVIDENCE OF CONFUSION IN OFFICIAL HUNGARIAN CIRCLES RE PROPER METHOD OF RECOGNITION OF PASSING OF MAO TSE-TUNG.
MUDD

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Message Attributes

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